

Message Text

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65

ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 L-03 AID-05

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R 211059Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5401

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EO 11652: NA

TAGS: EIND EGEN EINV EG

SUBJECT: STATUS OF J.A. JONES CONSTRUCTION COMPANY SUBCONTRACT
WITH WESTINGHOUSE IN THE SIDI-KREIR NUCLEAR PROJECT

REF: STATE 175910

1. ON BASIS INFORMATION PROVIDED REFTTEL, EMBOFF CONTACTED MAHER ABAZA, UNDERSECRETARY, MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY, JULY 19 REGARDIING REPORTED PEREMPTORY EGYPTIAN REJECTION OF J.A. JONES CONSTRUCTION COMPANY AS WESTINGHOUSE SUBCONTRACTOR FOR SIDI-KREIR NUCLEAR PROJECT. ABAZA INFORMED EMBOFF NO SUCH DECISION REGARDING JONES HAS BEEN MADE. ABAZA EXPLAINED MINISTRY HAD RECEIVED LETTERS FROM THREE CONTRACTORS, INCLUDING JONES, ASKING TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SIDI-KREIR JOB. MINISTRY HAD REFERRED ALL THREE COMPANIES TO WESTINGHOUSE, INFORMING THEM THAT WESTINGHOUSE HAS RESPONSIBILITY TO REVIEW APPLICATIONS AND SELECT CONTRACTOR ON COMPETITIVE BASIS. PRESUMABLY MINISTRY ALSO INFOMRED WESTINGHOUSE IT HAS RESPONSIBILITY TO AWARD SUBCONTRACT ON COMPETITIVE BASIS.

2. IT APPEARS POSSIBLE FROM INFORMATION PASSED ON BY JONES THAT IN PROCESS INFORMING JONES OF COMPETIVE BID PROCESS, WESTINGHOUSE MAY HAVE GONE BACK ON WHAT JONES CONSIDERED ALREADY FIRM
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SUBCONTRACTING ARRANGEMENTS.

3. COMMENT: IN LIGHT ABAZA'S STATEMENTS, THERE
WOULD SEEM TO BE NO BIAS FOR JONES' REPORT OF
PEREMPTORY REJECTION. UNFORTUNATELY, REFTEL DID
NOT MAKE CLEAR EXACTLY HOW JONES GOT INFORMATION,
WHETHER FROM WESTINGHOUSE OR MINISTRY OF ELECTRICITY;
WE ARE NOT IN POSITION TO JUDGE, THEREFORE, IF JONES
HAS BEEN TREATED UNFAIRLY. SINCE ABAZA INSISTS
RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUBCONTRACTOR LIES, IN FIRST
INSTANCE AT LEAST, WITH WESTINGHOUSE, IT MIGHT BE
MORE PROFITABLE TO PUT QUESTION DIRECTLY TO WESTINGHOUSE.
IF, AFTER LEARNING MORE ABOUT JONES' PROBLEM, DEPARTMENT
JUDGES OUR FURTHER INVESTIGATION WARRANTED, WE WOULD
BE READY TO PURSUE MATTER ON BEHALF OF AMERICAN COMPANY.
FYI: WE ATTEMPTED TO REACH WESTINGHOUSE NEGOTIATING
TEAM OVERSELVES BUT FOUND THEY HAD LEFT FOR U.S.
JULY 15 AND ARE NOT EXPECTED BACK BEFORE AUGUST 1.
END FYI.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

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